PASTOR: Kip McCormick **DATE:** November 11, 2024

SERIES: Rev'd Up SERMON: Divine Judgement

MAIN SCRIPTURE: Revelation 15:1-8 (NASB) SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE / FURTHER READING: Exodus 15:1-18; Deuteronomy 32:1-43; Philippians 2:8-11; Romans 1:24-25

MESSAGE TAKEAWAY: We can trust that God is both a God of love and justice

SUPPORTING THOUGHTS:

- A sign is a symbolic forewarning of a miraculous event to come.
- The plagues are three things: 1) Severe, sudden, and swift; 2) God's final expression of wrath toward the
 people remaining on the earth remember, people who have chosen to not follow God but Satan; and 3)
 Resemble the plagues found in Exodus as God liberated His people and punished those who worshiped other
 gods.
- Sea of glass mixed with fire represents wrath and judgment.
- Song of Moses and the Lamb: A song of deliverance *and* victory.
- Song of Moses: A song of deliverance.
- Song of the Lamb: A song of victory.
- "Righteous and true are Your ways." Can you say that all the time?
- Temple and tabernacle represent God's presence with His people.
- We all need fire in our lives so that we become the men and women God called us to be.
- If you're going through a time of suffering right now, 1) Praise God that it doesn't surprise Him, He's in control;
 2) Petition God to give you grace and strength to suffer well, reflecting Jesus in all you do; and 3) Trust Him with the outcome.
- "The Bible teaches us that God's wrath flows from His love and delight in His creation. He's angry at evil and injustice because it's destroying its peace and integrity." (Timothy Keller, The Reason for God)
- "There are only two kinds of people those who say, 'Thy will be done' to God or those to whom God in the end says, 'Thy will be done.' All that are in Hell choose it. Without that self-choice it wouldn't be Hell. No soul that seriously and constantly desires joy will ever miss it." (C.S. Lewis)



(ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING THOUGHTS)

- ²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. ²⁵ For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. (Romans 1:24-25)
- The time for mercy has passed. Even worship and praise are suspended until the judgments are complete. Enter Revelation 16 (next week)

CHALLENGE: Prepare your testimony. Speak it often. Treat others with respect and love.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What part of today's teaching intrigued you? What part of it confused you? What part of it motivated you?
- Why were these plagues called the "last?"
- What might the sea of glass with fire represent?
- What character traits of God are found in the Song of Moses and the Lamb?
- What can you learn from this passage about worship?
- What do the coming judgments reveal about God's nature?
- How should God's holiness and glory affect your everyday life?
- How will meditating on God's holiness change you?
- Discuss with the group our main takeaway: God is a God of love *and* justice. How can that be? How has that fact challenged you? Changed you? Scared you? Comforted you?
- Do you think we need suffering to grow in our faith? Why or why not?
- What did today's teaching motivate you to do?

Sources: Tom Constable (Constable Notes); Jason Dexter (Study and Obey on-line Bible Study, Revelation, with excellent discussion questions and commentary); Gotquestions.org; Gary Hamrick (Cornerstone Chapel, Revelation Series); Michael Heiser (Naked Bible Podcast; *Unseen Realm* and multiple books); Timothy Keller, The Reason for God; Life Application Study Bible Commentary, Revelation; John MacArthur (multiple books, sermons, study bible; Grace to You Ministries); Chuck Swindoll (New Testament Commentary – Revelation); Through the Word Bible App (Kris Langham); Warren Wiersbe (The Wiersbe Commentary, New Testament).